MIDDLE EAST AND SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

8 APRIL 1983

PLO Affairs

Jordanian Ultimatum, PLO Position -- Jordan's King Husayn has given the PLO 2 days to decide whether to authorize Jordan to join the peace process and if Husayn does not receive a "clear and frank decision" from the PLO he will hold a referendum on the question among the Jordanian and Palestinian people, according to "informed Palestinian sources" cited by Cairo radio on 7 April. When asked by the Kuwaiti paper AL-QABAS whether the PLO is being pressured by King Husayn, however, PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat affirmed that "there are no pressures at all" and that the PLO will remain "free," KUNA reported on 8 April.

Meanwhile, 'Arafat chaired another Fatah Central Committee meeting in Kuwait, KUNA noted. Several PLO Executive Committee members and faction leaders attended the meeting, which was aimed at achieving a unified Palestinian stand on the talks with Jordan and the formula for Palestinian representation in any future negotiations, KUNA said. PLO Information Department chief Yasir 'Abd Rabbuh subsequently announced that the PLO refuses to authorize King Husayn to negotiate on its behalf, and Fatah Central Committee member Salah Khalaf likewise said it is impossible to allow anyone to speak or negotiate on behalf of the PLO, Radio Monte Carlo reported. Citing WAFA, the radio also said an authoritative Palestinian source has denied a Saudi press report that 'Arafat adviser Nabil Sha'th said the PLO had reached agreement with Jordan and would accept President Reagan's plan subject to amendments. According to the radio, PLO deputy military commander Khalil al-Wazir and 'Arafat adviser Hani al-Hasan will return to Amman on 8 April to convey the PLO's stand to Jordan while 'Arafat himself goes to Aden.

In another development 'Arafat sent an "urgent" message to the Soviet Union, QNA reported citing a Kuwaiti press report. PLO Political Department chief Faruq Qaddumi conveyed a message from 'Arafat to Iraqi President Saddam Husayn, San'a' Voice of Palestine radio noted.

Syrian Comment -- An 8 April TISHRIN commentary reviewed by Damascus radio asserted that those who are willing to settle for "something rather than nothing" because of the "time factor" are undermining Arab solidarity, deepening Arab differences, and rejecting the Soviet Union's outstretched "friendly hand."

Inter-Arab Affairs

Boucetta Tour -- During his current Arab tour in connection with plans for an extraordinary Arab summit conference, Moroccan Minister of State for Foreign Affairs M'hamed Boucetta met Libyan Staff Major 'Abd as-Salam Jallud in Tripoli and subsequently conferred with Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad in Damascus, according to MAP and SANA. Radio Monte Carlo said Syria's announcement that the Al-Asad-Boucetta talks focused on the need to discuss and prepare the concepts on the summit agenda indicates that Syria has reservations about attending the conference.

Jordanian Comment on Soviet Policy -- Citing "informed sources," the Jordanian weekly AKHBAR AL-USBU' said Soviet leader Yuriy Andropov will visit Syria and will bring "big surprises" serving Arab interests. Andropov may also visit Baghdad, and Syria will then sever its close relationship with Iran, the sources asserted.

Maghreb Affairs -- Morocco and Algeria reopened the border crossing point near Oujda in accordance with the recent agreement ending the 8-year freeze in relations, Rabat radio

reported. According to a "reliable source" in Tunis cited by AFP, Algeria, Morocco, and Tunisia are planning to hold a summit meeting although the date is uncertain.

Lebanon Negotiations

Israel and Lebanon are "very near" an agreement, Jerusalem radio asserted in a report on the outcome of the 7 April negotiations at Qiryat Shemona. Earlier, Israeli Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir told a Knesset committee that Israel will know in 2 weeks whether it is possible to reach an agreement, the radio reported. Both Shamir and Israel's Foreign Ministry Director General David Kimche stressed that Israel will insist on its position regarding the status of "free Lebanon" commander Sa'd Haddad, according to the radio. Kimche, who heads the Israeli delegation to the talks, also emphasized that Israel will not implement any agreement with Lebanon if the Syrians do not withdraw from all parts of the country.

Noting the resumption of the talks in Qiryat Shemona, Beirut radio said differences over Haddad and joint patrols remain unresolved.

Israel

Relations With USSR, U.S. -- Foreign Minister Shamir described his Soviet counterpart Andrey Gromyko's recent statement supporting Israel's right to exist as "a new and positive note toward Israel," Jerusalem radio reported. The radio also said U.S. assertions that the suspension of F-16's does not constitute a change in U.S. policy are an attempt to appease Israel. Citing a Foreign Ministry announcement, the radio noted that Israel's new ambassador to Washington will be Me'ir Rosenne, the current ambassador in Paris.

Goodman Sentence -- Jerusalem District Court sentenced Allan Goodman to life imprisonment for the murder he committed on Temple Mount last year, Jerusalem radio reported.

Egypt

President Husni Mubarak told newsmen in Japan that the United States is playing a "constructive role" in the Middle East peace process, which requires an immediate Israeli withdrawal from Lebanon, a freeze on West Bank settlements, and an end to Israel's "repressive policy and arbitrary measures," According to the proceedings of Mubarak's press conference in Tokyo broadcast by Cairo radio. The Egyptian leader also revealed that he had sent an urgent message to President Reagan dealing with the PLO-Jordanian talks and other related contacts and that he would shortly send an envoy to Amman to convey a message to King Husayn. Mubarak also said that the reopening of borders with Libya requires "good-neighborly" bilateral relations, that Egypt has "no fixed date" for the normalization of relations with the Soviet Union, and that, contrary to rumors spread by "propagandamongers" trying to undermine Egyptian-U.S. relations, Egypt has signed no military agreement with the PRC.

Gulf Oil Slick Talks

Health ministers of the GCC countries, Iran, and Iraq met in Kuwait in their capacity as the executive committee of the Regional Organization for the Protection of the Marine Environment to discuss measures to combat the oil slick leaking from Iran's Nowruz oil field, Kuwait radio reported. Meanwhile, IRNA blamed Iraq for "raising obstacles" that delayed the start of the talks. Earlier, Iraqi Health Minister Sadiq Hamid 'Allush told the Kuwaiti paper AL-ANBA' that the oil leak was caused by a technical fault that occurred on 27 January and not by Iraqi military action, INA reported. 'Allush also reiterated Iraq's call for a cease-fire in order to allow an international body to cap the leaking well. IRNA subsequently reaffirmed Iran's view that it is fully capable of containing the spill and controlling the pollution through its own resources and with the assistance of countries of the regional organization.

FBIS DAILY REPORT

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OFFICIALS ATTEND KHAD PARTY ACTIVISTS MEETING

LD072249 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 7 Apr 83

[Text] A meeting of party activists from all party organs of KHAD [state information services] was held this afternoon at the KHAD conference hall. Present at the meeting were Comrade Najibollah, member of the PDPA Central Committee Politburo and head of KHAD; Najmoddin Khawiani, member of the PDPA Central Committee and head of the Central Committee Organization Department; and Comrade Faruq, member of the Central Committee and head of the Political Department of the Internal Affairs Ministry.

The meeting opened with the playing of the Internationale. Comrade Hashmatullah Kayhani, candidate member of the Central Committee and head of KHAD political affairs, then read the basic statement of the meeting. He also informed those present of the political and operational activities accomplished by KHAD organs during the year.

Another nine people then discussed the basic statement and explained various aspects of the tasks of the KHAD party organs. In these statements, the tasks of KHAD organs concerning the further implementation of the resolutions of the PDPA conference and announcements, guidelines, and decisions of the leading authorities were positively assessed.

At the conclusion of the speeches, the work of the meeting was positively evaluated by Comrade Najibollah.

Highlighting the April Revolution and its aims and referring to the important tasks of the PDPA and those of the KHAD organs, Comrade Najibollah said: Criminal imperialism, led by bloodsucking U.S. imperialism and its regional collaborators, must have understood that infiltrating counterrevolution into our country cannot, as they had planned, foil the revolutionary process of Afghanistan. The April Revolution is moving ahead. The plans and designs of the counterrevolutionaries have been in vain.

In another part of his speech, Comrade Najibollah said: The masses are at the center of attention of the party and the revolution. PDPA members are dutybound to spread political work among the people for their further organization and to explain to them the true essence of the April Revolution in accordance with the guidelines of the PDPA congress. He added: The enemy has been weakened and is breathing its last breath of life. We have the duty to eliminate the final remnants of counterrevolution, to help the country to prosper, and to open the path of prosperity and comfort to all of our persecuted people. The revolution is for the comfort and prosperity of the people. Thus, the people ought to be prepared for the realization of the aims of the revolution.

A resolution by the party activists of KHAD was then unanimously approved and the work of the meeting was concluded with the playing of the Internationale.

BRIEFS

ENVOY TO POLAND -- The People's Republic of Poland recently accepted Mohammed Faruq Karmand as the DRA's ambassador-designate to Poland. [Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 3 Apr 83 LD]

GANDHI REMARKS ON RELATIONS WITH PRC CITED

BK071459 Delhi General Overseas Service in English 1330 GMT 7 Apr 83

[Text] The prime minister today reiterated that in her long history has never had any aggressive designs against anybody. On the other hand, she said, we have been attacked several times. Gandhi was addressing scholars of the Indian Institute of Mass Communication [IIMC] in New Delhi today. She pointed out that all initiatives for peace and friendship have been from our side. Even is Bangladesh, when we were there without our desire to be involved, we left immediately afterwards, Gandhi said.

On the Sino-Indian relations, the prime minister said that on the one had they say they want friendship and we believe them. On the other hand, they take up questions which are not conducive to understanding.

The IIMC trainees included 30 scholars from 18 developing countries of Asia and Africa.

AFP Account

BK071136 Hong Kong AFP in English 1006 GMT 7 Apr 83

[Excerpts] New Delhi, April 7 (AFP) — Indian Prime Minister Indira Gandhi today said that China's attitude was "not very conducive" to normalization of its relations with India.

"On the one hand China wants friendship with India, but on the other it was laying claims on a large part of Indian territory," Mrs Gandhi told a group of Asian and African journalist-trainees here.

Mrs Gandhi was referring to the northeastern Indian state of Arunachal Pradesh which is claimed by China. The status of the 83,578 sq. kms. (50,200 sq. miles) Arunachal Pradesh came into sharp focus last month when India allowed the exiled spiritual and temporal leader of the Tibetans, the Dalai Lama, to go there on a 45-day visit.

A Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesman said in Beijing recently that "the 90,000 sq. kms. (55,000 sq. miles) of land south of the illegal McMahon line has always been Chinese territory."

A sharp dispute broke out between Beijing and New Delhi last December when an Arunachal Pradesh dance troupe performed at the closing ceremonies of the Ninth Asian Games here. The NEW CHINA NEWS AGENCY (NCNA) then accused India of a "Discreditable behaviour" and of a "deliberate step to propogate India's sovereignty over the state and to legalise it."

Mrs Gandhi today termed the Chinese protest at that time as "callous." She also recalled the fact that China had refused a visa for the speaker of the Arunachal Pradesh state assembly to attend a population conference in Beijing last year.

"Still we are trying our best to sort out our problems in a friendly atmosphere and talks in this regard are going on," she told the journalist-trainees.

Mrs Gandhi then went on to deny that India ever wanted to dominate the region. "We want friendly relations with all our neighbours including Pakistan and China. The idea of domination usually creates rivalry," she said.

She also expressed concern over the acquisition of sophisticated arms by Pakistan. The U.S. naval base on the Indian Ocean island of Diego Garcia was "very unlikely" to be dismantled even in the face of growing international criticism, Mrs Gandhi said. She added it did not mean that "we should not talk about the issue. By talking we may achieve our objective."

ARMS, AMMUNITION STOLEN FROM PUNJAB ARMORY

BK071601 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 7 Apr 83

[Text] In Punjab, police has been alerted following the theft of some arms and ammunition from the home guard armory in Ferozepore. State Chief Secretary K.D. Vasudev told our Chandigarh correspondent that the theft took place early this morning. He said efforts are being made to apprehend the culprits at the earliest.

AKALI DEMANDS PULLOUT OF CENTRAL POLICE FORCE

BK080909 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 8 Apr 83

[Text] The situation in Amritsar continues to be normal. Last night some miscreants tried to disturb the peace by throwing a bomb on a central reserve police force [CRPF] post which did not cause any damage. Meanwhile, the Shiromani Akali Dal high command at its meeting late last night demanded the withdrawal of CRPF from Amritsar.

TRIPURA STRIKE BEGINS; 'EXTREMIST' ARRESTED

BK080905 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 8 Apr 83

[Text] In Tripura, a 24-hour bundh [strike] call given by the state Congress-I committee in protest against the murder of Congress-I member of legislative assembly, Mr Parimal Saha, began at 0600 this morning. Private vehicles were off the road and business establishments, schools, and colleges remain closed. Police are patrolling the streets.

A self-styled leader of the extremist organization and three of his assoicates were arrested by the central reserve police force [CRPF] personnel at (Karamchera) near Agartala last night. The CRPF commandant of the 63 Battalion, Mr Gupta, told the All India Radio Agartala correspondent that one revolver and a few grenades were recovered from them.

TWO KILLED IN ASSAM BOMB EXPLOSION 7 APRIL

BK071605 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 7 Apr 83

[Text] Official reports from Gauhati say that the situation in the disturbed Kakrajhar and Sidli areas of Goalpara District is under control.

No fresh incident has been reported during the past 24 hours. Army and paramilitary personnel are patrolling round the clock.

In (South Parania) area of Gauhati, two persons were killed and another injured when a bomb exploded in a private residence this evening. Vigorous police investigation into the incident is in progress.

STUDENT UNIONS CONDEMN RECENT ASSAM VIOLENCE

BK080519 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 8 Apr 83

[Text] The All Assam Students' Union and the All Border Students' Union have condemned the recent violent incidents in different parts of the state. In a joint statement, the two organizations have urged the people to keep vigil on divisive forces which were trying to create misunderstanding among different sections of the people. The two unions have also directed their units to work unitedly to bring back peace and amity in the state.

Assam has urged the center to sanction 570 million rupees as grant to meet the expenditure on relief and rehabilitation work in the state. The request was made by the state chief minister, Mr Hiteshwar Saikia, when he called on the union finance minister, Mr Pranab Mukherjee, and the union labor and rehabilitation minister, Mr Virendra Patril.

LEADERS MEET WITH BULGARIAN DELEGATION 1, 2 APRIL

Commerce Minister

BK020955 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 2 Apr 83

[Text] India and Bulgaria have expressed their desire to expand trade. This was emphasized when the Bulgarian leader, Mr Pencho Kubadinski, who is heading a visiting Bulgarian delegation, called on the commerce minister, Mr V.P. Singh, in New Delhi yesterday. Mr Singh pointed out that there is considerable scope for joint ventures and Bulgaria, as a primary exporter of agricultural products, can assist India. Joint ventures in canned fruit export to Third World countries and the supply of grapes from India to Bulgaria were suggested by the commerce minister. The Bulgarian leader welcomed Mr Singh's suggestion. He said India and Bulgaria can have useful cooperation in industries based on forest produce.

Prime Minister

BK030917 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 3 Apr 83

[Text] The president of Bulgaria's Fatherland Front, Mr Kubadinski, met Mrs Gandhi in New Delhi yesterday and congratulated her on the success of the recent nonaligned summit. Mr Kubadinski, who is heading a four-member delegation, is on a visit to India. He said Bulgaria fully supports the New Delhi message. He expressed happiness at the close relations developing between the two countries.

Reciprocating Mr Kubadinski's sentiments, Mrs Gandhi said India is keenly looking forward to the visit of the Bulgarian president, Mr Zhivkov.

PRC DELEGATION VISITS AFGHAN REFUGEE VILLAGE

BK061053 Karachi Domestic Service in English 1005 GMT 6 Apr 83

[Text] The leader of the visiting Chinese delegation, Mr Zheng Tuobin, has said China wants unconditional withdrawal of Soviet troops from Afghanistan. He has expressed the hope the Afghan refugees will return to their homeland with honor and dignity. The delegation chief, who is also the first vice minister for foreign economic relations and trade of China, was talking to Afghan refugees near Peshawar today. The Chinese delegation also visited a school at [words indistinct] refugee tented village. It also visited a store where members of the delegation were briefed on the distribution system of food and other relief articles among the refugees.

IRANIAN DIPLOMAT ON POLITICAL PARTIES IN IRAN

GF080703 Karachi DAWN in English 3 Apr 83 p 12

[Text] Lahore, April 2 -- The consul-general of Iran, Aqai Ahmad Naghmi, has said that all political parties are allowed to function in Iran except those which are agents of powers inimical to the Islamic Revolution or that of imperialism.

He was speaking on occasion of the birthday of Imam Khomeyni which incidentally falls on the birthday of Hazrat Fatima, the daughter of the holy prophet (peace upon him).

He said that in Iran law was derived from the holy Quran and the Sunnah and there was the Islamic 'Majlis' which guided the people.

The consul-general said that the revolutions in Russia and France had "proved to be failures" and the Afghanistan problem was one of the examples of the failure of the Russian revolution which claimed to free the whole world.

PRESIDENT CONFERS AWARDS ON UAE MILITARY CHIEF

BK051037 Karachi Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT 4 Apr 83

[Excerpts] At a special investiture ceremony in Rawalpindi this afternoon, the president conferred high military awards on the leader of the United Arab Emirates [UAE] Armed Forces delegation, Brigadier Mohammad Sa'id al-Badi, and members of his delegation. The awards have been conferred in recognition of their valuable services for the promotion and growth of the existing friendship and brotherly relations between Pakistan and the UAE as well as cooperation between the Armed Forces of the two countries.

The chief of staff of the UAE Armed Forces called in Rawalpindi today on the chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff Committee, General Mohammad Iqbal Khan, and discussed matters of common interest.

Earlier, at a dinner hosted in his honor in Peshawar by the chief of the Air Staff, Air Chief Marshal Mohammad Anwar Shamim, the United Arab Emirates Armed Forces chief spoke of the strong ties of faith and history between the two countries. This fraternal relationship, he added, would grow from strength to strength. The UAE Armed Forces chief also visited the Pakistan ordnance factories at Wah today.

BANGLADESH

PRESS NOTE ISSUED ON REOPENING OF UNIVERSITIES

BK070344 Dhaka Domestic Service in English 0145 GMT 7 Apr 83

[Text] A press note issued in Dhaka last night says the government decided to reopen in the first phase from the 3d of this month the Chittagong University, the Bangladesh University of Engineering and Technology and Agricultural University, which were closed following the disturbances of 14 and 15 February 1983. In respect of Chittagong University, this decision was taken after consultation with the university authorities.

The government has noted with great regret that the teachers of Chittagong University refrained from taking classes despite the fact that thousands of students have returned to the campus and are waiting for resumption of normal academic activities. The press note says that by abstaining from taking classes the teachers have violated the provisions of the University Act of 1973, although they have been demanding the preservation of the act. It says the government expresses extreme concern over the teachers' abstention from performing their duties. It (?views) this as extremely harmful to the interests of the worried guardians and most students. The university is already behind its academic calendar. The press note adds should the teachers continue to refrain from resuming duties, they will be deemed to have committed offense under the Chittagong University Act of 1973.

SRI LANKA

GANDHIAN MOVEMENT SUSPECTED OF TERRORIST LINKS

BK071351 Hong Kong AFP in English 0820 GMT 7 Apr 83

[Text] Colombo, April 7 (AFP) -- Security forces have detained for questioning the leader of a labour organisation suspected of having links with northern Tamil terrorist groups, it was reported here today.

Dr S. Rajasund Eram, administrative secretary of the Gandhian Movement, was arrested last night at Vavuniya, about 250 kilometres north of the capital.

The ISLAND newspaper reported that security forces also seized a number of documents and files at two of the movement's offices in northern Sri Lanka, where militant minority Tamils are seeking to establish an independent state.

Reports said several farms run by the Gandhian Movement have been under close scrutiny by the security forces, who suspected the farms were being used for the collection of supplies by terrorists who had training camps in the area.

Detectives were also trying to establish if foreign countries were channelling money to the Tamils, the SUN newspaper said.

The Gandhian Movement helps resettle tea and rubber plantation workers displaced by racial riots.

The role of certain social service organisations operating in the politically sensitive north and east was raised at a Cabinet meeting several weeks ago.

MATERIALS ON KUWAIT MEETING ON OIL SLICK

Delegation Head Comments

GF071844 Tehran International Service in Arabic 1430 GMT 7 Apr 83

[Excerpts] In an interview yesterday on the polluting of Persian Gulf waters because of the oil spill, Mirza Taheri, assistant prime minister and head of the environmental protection organization, who is heading the Iranian delegation to the meeting of the Regional Organization for the Protection of Marine Environment in the Persian Gulf, which is being held in Kuwait, said that despite the resolutions of the Kuwait Convention of 1978 and the Iraqi regime's signature on it, Iraq has polluted the region's waters by its rocket attack on the Nowruz oil field and has endangered the lives of the coastal countries' peoples and sea life.

Taheri said Iran will be able to control the oil leaking into the water within a maximum of 20 days through its own capabilities and the capabilities of other countries in the region and that there is no need for American or European experts.

The assistant prime minister and head of the environmental protection organization denied any connection between the announcement of a cease-fire and the purification of the polluted Persian Gulf waters. He said: Our conditions for ending the imposed war on our Islamic homeland are the same conditions previously announced by the officials of the Islamic Republic of Iran.

Velayati on Condemning Iraq

LD071913 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 7 Apr 83

[Text] Foreign Affairs Minister Velayati commented in an interview on the Kuwait meeting of member countries of the Regional Organization for the Protection of the Marine Environment and on the pollution caused by the oil leakage resulting from Saddam's missile attack.

Referring to the warmongering of the Iraqi Zionist regime and Saddam's treacherous attack on the Nowruz oil field, Velayati said: With full knowledge of the results of this action -- cuts in the available drinking water of the region's Muslim and Arab people, disturbances in drinking water and port installations of the neighboring countries, and pollution of the maritime environment -- the Iraqi regime deliberately fired at our oil platforms and took another step toward expanding the disturbance and tension in the region.

Referring to the content of the Kuwait Convention, which has also been signed by the ruling regime in Baghdad, Velayati said: In accordance with this treaty, all of the region's countries are dutybound to prevent pollution and to help eliminate it should it occur. However, in its military communiques, the Iraqi Government not only has confessed to attacking oil fields but it also has announced that by using missile attacks it will prevent the oil wells from being capped or repaired.

This means that it must accept responsibility for the continuation of the environmental pollution which directly harms the interests of the region's nations. We demand that all of the organization's member countries condemn Iraq for breaching the contents of the environmental protection convention and make this regime, which through the violation of international standards and principles has caused problems for life in the region, particularly for the small Arab countries on the southern shores of the Persian Gulf, refrain from committing its previous crimes in the course of capping operations and cleansing the environment.

Velayati concluded: The Islamic Republic of Iran appreciates the readiness of some countries and international organizations to clear up the environmental pollution. Iran will undertake any necessary cooperation with them through the Regional Environmental Protection Organization.

Iraqi 'Obstacles' Cited

LD072122 Tehran IRNA in English 2008 GMT 7 Apr 83

[Text] Kuwait, April 7 IRNA -- Iraq by raising obstacles intends to exploit the environmental assembly. Despite Islamic Republic's efforts to clean up pollution of Persian Gulf waters caused by Iraqi rocketing of the Nowruz oil field, and despite the crucial urgency of the work at hand, the Kuwait Convention did not open on Wednesday due to Iraqi regime's interference.

Informed sources at the conference revealed today that Iraq ignored the serious threat posed to regional interest intended to misuse of the issue, hoping to find a way to save the ruling regime of Iraq from a sure and imminent fall.

In another development the sources told IRNA here that Iraqi delegation currently here lacked the required authority, and failing to benefit from their ploys left for Baghdad for new instructions. Despite Iraqi military communique and Iraq's vast propaganda concerning bombing of Iran's oil well in the Persian Gulf, health minister of Iraqi regime in an interview with Kuwait paper AL-ANBA' claimed that the spill of oil was due to technical disorders in Iran's No 3 oil well and that the Iraqi rockets only ignited the already spilling oil.

Iraqi health minister in his interview added that the capping of oil wells should be carried out under supervision of international delegations and Iraqi regime has planned the necessary measures for the entrance of foreign authorities in the region.

The statement is made despite repeated announcement by the Islamic Republic to the effect that by its own resources and assistance of the member countries of the environmental organisation, the Islamic Republic is fully capable of containing the spill and controlling the pollution.

ARMED FORCES JOINT STAFF COMMUNIQUE NO 1,272

LD071737 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 7 Apr 83

[Communique No 1,272 of Joint Staff of Armed Forces of Islamic Republic of Iran]

[Text] In His exalted name. During the last 24 hours, clashes continued in the form of exchanges of heavy weapons fire on the country's western fronts, which were even more intense in the Piranshahr border region. Our forces' fire on enemy positions in that region destroyed 4 heavy vehicles, 1 heavy machinegun, and 3 trenches and killed or wounded 25 Saddamist servicemen.

In the Marivan region, our artillery units' fire on enemy positions in the Hasanabad region and the (Kaniyestan) base destroyed several trenches, killing several enemy servicemen. On other western fronts, exchanges of fire continued yesterday and one enemy ammunition dump and several trenches were set on fire and destroyed.

During military operations on the southern fronts in the last 24 hours, our artillery units' intensive fire neutralized all Iraqi military activities. With their combat superiority, the Islamic forces defended their positions and halted enemy engineering and trench-digging activities throughout the lines of contact.

In the Abadan and Khorramshahr operational zone, our combatants opened fire on enemy positions, installations, and artillery west of the Arvand Rud, destroying 25 trenches and foxholes of the Saddamist forces.

The enemy's long-range weapons fire yesterday destroyed a house in Abadan and wounded one of our compatriots.

[Signed] Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran

MUSAVI ADDRESSES NEED TO DEVELOP PROPAGANDA

LD062343 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 2030 GMT 6 Apr 83

[Text] A group of officials and news delegations of the ISLAMIC REPUBLIC NEWS AGENCY dispatched to the Seventh Nonaligned Summit met with the prime minister.

In this meeting, Musavi, referring to the role of propaganda in increasing people's awareness of the goals of the Islamic Revolution and the developments taking place in the ISLAMIC REPUBLIC NEWS AGENCY, said: We must always have the feeling that we are at the beginning of the road and the greatness of our revolution is too extensive for us to have been able to master this technique quickly in order to convey the message of the Islamic Revolution as it is and to be able to stand strongly against tne influence of the enemies' propaganda.

The prime minister noted that the Islamic Revolution of Iran, on the basis of "neither East nor West," must stand against many groups and therefore needs those media and news agencies that can confront the enemies' propaganda attack. He emphasized the need for a two-channel source of news.

Musavi added: Sometimes it is thought that for the sake of economy the two sources of the ISLAMIC REPUBLIC NEWS AGENCY and the Central News Unit of the Voice and Vision should be merged, which is a mistaken notion, because our regime must enjoy correct thought; various sources of obtaining information must exist. The Central News Unit in connection with the Voice and Vision can have certain criteria and follow certain criteria which may not be followed by the ISLAMIC REPUBLIC NEWS AGENCY because the type of work they do may differ. Musavi also emphasized the need to establish a center in the ISLAMIC REPUBLIC NEWS AGENCY with the task of researching news sociology and meticulously learning the tools of propaganda.

In conclusion, the prime minister emphasized the need for further coordination between the Voice and Vision and ISLAMIC REPUBLIC NEWS AGENCY, acting in unison against the conspiracies of the world's mass media.

GUARDS REPORTEDLY KILL KORDESTAN VILLAGERS

GF301740 (Clandestine) Free Voice of Iran in Persian 1500 GMT 30 Mar 83

[Text] According to our correspondent, the murderous guards of Khomeyni opened fire on (Gijeh) village in northern Kordestan on 22 March and then attacked the same village with mortar. They also executed 15 innocent villagers in front of the stricken eyes of their family members.

According to the same report, Khomeyni's guards collected the 41 men of the village and took them away. They preceded to kill another 10 of them in groups of 2 or 3. Our correspondent provided the names of some of those murdered: Ahmad (Siran) and his 2 sons (Jerjikh) and ('Ebri); Asad, son of 'Isa, age 55; Jahangir, son of 'Abdollah, age 60; Soltan Sa'idi, age 46; Reza, age 45; Ebrahim, son of Jase, age 25; Mas'ud, son of Reza, age 26; Kamal, son of Asad, age 21; 'Abdolkarim, son of Rostam, age 20; Mohammad Birini; and (Haqqi), son of 'Ali Reza.

COURTS 'POSTPONE' ISSUING EVICTION ORDERS

LD061446 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 6 Apr 83

[Text] Under a directive issued by the Supreme Judicial Council, departments of justice courts will suspend their eviction orders that could harm and make homeless tenants. Our correspondent reports that Mr Moqtada'i, a member of the Supreme Judicial Council, referring to the problems of landlord-tenant relations and to the convocation of special courts to stop eviction orders in accordance with the Supreme Judicial Council directive, has stated that although Islam respects the principle of private ownership and landlords are entitled by civil and religious law to request eviction orders, in view of the current problems of 100,000 rented residential homes in Tehran as well as the need to prevent harm and homelessness, disruption of the economic systems and social life, and also to prevent thousands of families and students from becoming homeless, if a landlord does not urgently need his rented property and if halting eviction orders does not harm the landlord, the courts will for the moment postpone issuing eviction orders.

NVOI COMMENTARY WARNS OF 'INTERNAL CRISIS'

TA312035 (Clandestine) National Voice of Iran in Persian 1730 GMT 31 Mar 83

[Unattributed commentary]

[Text] Dear compatriots: The events of recent months in our homeland, the unbridled activity of the superficials and monopolists, and the violation of the country's laws indicate the bitter fact that the revolution gradually is facing an internal crisis in all spheres and that the Islamic Government has not been able to fulfill successfully the revolutions aspirations, as was necessary. The outcome of this undesirable situation, which is being fanned wittingly by the foes of the revolution and unwittingly by the ignorant friends of the revolution, is the intensification of despondency and discontent on the part of the broad masses in the towns and villages. And this is precisely what imperialism, headed by world-devouring America, desires.

Our homeland's people are witnessing for themselves that so far almost no basic and reform measure has been carried out for securing social justice in the interest of the oppressed and deprived of society. In contrast, practical steps have been and are being taken as much as possible to consolidate and strengthen the position of the major capitalists and landlords, these foes of the Iranian Revolution.

Not a day passes without letters from the workers in the towns and villages being published in the country's authorized newspapers. In these letters, the people express their dissatisfaction with the existing situation and request officials of the Islamic Government to act in a decisive and revolutionary manner to fulfill the revolution's aspirations and to implement the principles of the Constitution.

As a result of the staunch resistance by capitalist and feudalist circles and their defenders and dependents in the leadership, the government apparatus and even in the echelons of the clergy, almost all measures by the struggling Muslims in the Islamic Government have been neutralized. It is for this reason too that, as Martyr Raja'i has said, the oppressed have not gained anything from the revolution.

The revolution's foes can be satisfied that certain people, both in the government and in the echelons of the clergy, are striving to empty the revolution of its basic content and to restore the previous era where the major capitalists and landlords will continue to be absolute rulers of the lives, properties, and fate of the million-strong masses of workers. By exploiting this situation, certain landlords and feudalists who had fled in fear of the revolution now are returning to the villages. With the help and assistance of some government and religious authorities, they are getting back their usurped lands which the farmers had been cultivating during the past several years and again are establishing the feudalist apparatus in our emancipated homeland.

Many of the factories which, due to the enormous debts of their owners, had been taken over by the government, as a result of wheeling and dealing by elements defending major capitalism in the upper echelons of the government and clergy are being returned one after the other to their so-called initial owners.

The drafting, approval, and implementation of revolutionary laws are being prevented by all means and the outcome of this situation is that the million-strong masses of workers in the towns and villages so far have gained nothing from the revolution.

The economic terrorists are sucking the blood of the deprived people. As a result of the government's conciliatory approach, excessive high costs are wreaking havoc in our country. This too has an unpleasant effect on the living conditions of millions of workers and farmers, civil servants and intellectuals, and small producers. Naturally, such a situation can only cause intensification of the people's discontent. Most of all, it is the internal and external foes of the Iranian Revolution who are exploiting this situation to undermine the revolution and to separate the people from the Islamic Government and to undermine it.

Without doubt, the only way to emerge from the internal crisis which the Iranian Revolution is now facing is to carry out practical steps in the interests of the oppressed people. All those who are sincerely thinking about the fate of the revolution and its aims should take steps toward this end. Through fundamental and revolutionary measures in the interest of the oppressed people, the revolution must be saved from the internal crisis which its wise foes and ignorant friends have created.

CLANDESTINE NOTES NEW AMBASSADOR TO MOSCOW

GF071227 (Clandestine) Seda-ye Iran in Persian 1930 GMT 6 Apr 83

[Text] [Word indistinct] Tabataba'i has succeeded Hoseyn Mokri as the ambassador of the Islamic Republic in Moscow.

COMMERCE OFFICIAL DISCUSSES TRADE WITH ENVOYS

Bulgarian Ambassador

LD072022 Tehran IRNA in English 1906 GMT 7 Apr 83

[Text] Tehran, April, 7 IRNA -- The Bulgarian ambassador to Tehran, Stefan Polendakov, in a meeting here today with the deputy for foreign trade of Commerce Ministry, Hojatollah Ghanimi-Fard, said that his government was willing to increase volumes of trade between the two countries for the current year.

During the meeting trade relations between Iran and Bulgaria in the past year was assessed and the Bulgarian ambassador expressed willingness of his country to increase volume of import of non-oil goods from Iran and export of foodstuff and industrial raw material to Iran.

The two sides also discussed exchange of visits of trade and economic delegations in future. It was also announced that the Islamic Republic of Iran would take part in Plovdiv exhibition to be held in Plovdiv of Bulgaria from May 9 through 15. Furthermore it was announced Bulgaria will open a chemical products exhibition in Tehran in a near future.

Turkish Ambassador

GF072018 Tehran International Service in Turkish 1830 GMT 7 Apr 83

[Text] The Turkish Ambassador to Tehran Bileda held a meeting with Ghanimi-Fard, deputy director of the Foreign Trade Department of the Islamic Republic's Ministry of Commerce. [title as heard] The talks centered on matters related to broadening trade relations between the two countries vis-a-vis the visit to Turkey by an economic delegation from the Islamic Republic of Iran for the signing of new agreements and plans for setting up an exhibition of manufactured goods and for exchange of economic delegations.

18 DRA OFFICIALS REPORTEDLY KILLED IN HERAT

LD060200 Tehran IRNA in English 1953 GMT 5 Apr 83

[Text] Zahedan, April 5 IRNA -- The Afghan mujahideen launching a surprise attack on the governorate office of Herat Province, in which the executive managers of the province had assembled for a joint meeting last week, managed to kill 18 of the participants. The meeting attended by Mahmud Barialay, brother of Babrak Karmal, the head of the Afghan regime, was said to be heavily guarded at the time.

Informed sources further added that besides achieving a big political and military victory, Afghan mujahideen mined the route of the joint Soviet and Afghan Government forces, destroying one armoured tank and killing all its occupants.

BRIEFS

BUSHEHR CUSTOMS FIGURES -- The director general of the Bushehr Customs Office, in an interview with the Central News Unit, has given the following customs figures for Bushehr during the last Iranian year: goods worth 56 million rials were cleared through the customs; goods worth 349 million rials were exported during the year; fines collected from smugglers amounted to 53 million rials; income of the Ganaveh Customs House amounted to 2.5 billion rials; and income from Bushehr Customs House was 12 billion rials. [Bushehr Domestic Service in Persian 1330 GMT 6 Apr 83 GF]